

GARY R. MAR, PH.D., appointed to the Commission in 2005, is a Professor of Philosophy at Stony Brook University, where he teaches logic, philosophy of mathematics, analytic philosophy, philosophy of religion, linguistics, and Asian American studies. Founder and director of the Asian American Center, he was a catalyst for the Charles B. Wang Asian American Center at SBU, which was established, at that time, with the largest private donation in the history of the public education system in NY State. Dr. Mar has been an advocate for Asian American studies at Stony Brook University and serves on a number of community organizations, including being a member of the advisory board of the Council for Prejudice Reduction and a Vice Chair of the Community Advisory Board for Public Television Stations WNET13/WLIW21/NJTV. Dr. Mar was also the founding president of the Asian American Faculty Staff Association and chaired the American Philosophical Association (APA) Committee on the status of Asian and Asian American Philosophers and Philosophies. He has been a recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award from the Alumni Association at Stony Brook, the President's and Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching from SUNY, and the Pew Foundation Scholar's Fellowship. In 2005, he was honored with a Civil Advocacy Achievement Award from the Organization of Chinese Americans, Long Island. He has administered grants to conduct workshops on hate crimes from the Allstate Foundation and the Organization of Chinese Americans, an Asian American civil rights advocacy group based in Washington, D.C. Dr. Mar chairs the Commission's Education Committee and is also a member of the Immigration Committee.